AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please delete the paragraph at page 7, lines 1 to 3 of the specification.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 4, with the following amended paragraph:

Fig. ~~16~~ 15 is a sectional view schematically illustrating a transmissive liquid crystal display using an ellipsoidal polarizing plate.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 7, with the following amended paragraph:

Fig. ~~17~~ 16 is a sectional view schematically illustrating a reflective liquid crystal display using an ellipsoidal polarizing plate.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 43, line 7, with the following amended paragraph:

Fig. ~~16~~ 15 is a sectional view schematically illustrating a transmissive liquid crystal display using an ellipsoidal polarizing plate.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 43, line 10, with the following amended paragraph:

The liquid crystal display shown in (a) of Fig. ~~16~~ 15 comprises a backlight (BL), a transparent protective film (1a), a polarizing membrane (2a), a transparent support (3a), an

optically anisotropic layer (4a), a lower substrate of a liquid crystal cell (5a), a rod-like liquid crystal layer (6), an upper substrate of a liquid crystal cell (5b), an optically anisotropic layer (4b), a transparent support (3b), a polarizing membrane (2b) and a transparent protective film (1b) in this order. One ellipsoidal polarizing plate comprises the transparent protective film (1a), the polarizing membrane (2a), the transparent support (3a), and the optically anisotropic layer (4a). The other ellipsoidal polarizing plate comprises the optically anisotropic layer (4b), the transparent support (3b), the polarizing membrane (2b) and the transparent protective film (1b).

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 43, line 26, with the following amended paragraph:

The liquid crystal display shown in (b) of Fig. ~~16~~ 15 comprises a backlight (BL), a transparent protective film (1a), a polarizing membrane (2a), a transparent support (3a), an optically anisotropic layer (4a), a lower substrate of a liquid crystal cell (5a), a rod-like liquid crystal layer (6), an upper substrate of a liquid crystal cell (5b), a transparent protective film (1b), a polarizing membrane (2b) and a transparent protective film (1c) in this order. An ellipsoidal polarizing plate comprises the transparent protective film (1a), the polarizing membrane (2a), the transparent support (3a) and the optically anisotropic layer (4a).

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 44, line 3, with the following amended paragraph:

The liquid crystal display shown in (c) of Fig. ~~16~~ 15 comprises a backlight (BL), a transparent protective film (1a), a polarizing membrane (2a), a transparent protective film (1b), a lower substrate of a liquid crystal cell (5a), a rod-like liquid crystal layer (6), an upper substrate of a liquid crystal cell (5b), an optically anisotropic layer (4b), a transparent support (3b), a polarizing membrane (2b) and a transparent protective film (1c) in this order. An ellipsoidal polarizing plate comprises the optically anisotropic layer (4b), the transparent support (3b), the polarizing membrane (2b) and the transparent protective film (1c).

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 44, line 15, with the following amended paragraph:

Fig. ~~17~~ 16 is a sectional view schematically illustrating a reflective liquid crystal display using an ellipsoidal polarizing plate.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 44, line 18, with the following amended paragraph:

The liquid crystal display shown in Fig. ~~17~~ 16 comprises a reflective plate (RP), a lower substrate of a liquid crystal cell (5a), a rod-like liquid crystal layer (6), an upper substrate of a liquid crystal cell (5b), an optically anisotropic layer (4b), a transparent support (3b), a polarizing membrane (2b) and a transparent protective film (1b) in this order. An ellipsoidal polarizing plate comprises the optically anisotropic layer (4b), the transparent support (3b), the polarizing membrane (2b) and the transparent protective film (1b).

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 62, line 13, with the following amended paragraph:

The optical compensatory sheet shown in Fig. 8 comprises a support (71), an orientation layer (72) and an optically anisotropic layer (73) in the order. The layered structure corresponds to (a) and (b) in Fig. 6 and (e) and (f) in Fig. ~~6~~ 7. The orientation layer (72) has an aligning function caused by rubbing the layer along a direction (75).

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 67, line 6, with the following amended paragraph:

The liquid crystal displays of the OCB mode and the HAN mode are described below referring to Figs. 10 to 14 ~~15~~.

Please delete the paragraph at page 71, lines 8 to 10, of the specification.